

An ADE Newsletter for Test Coordinators

November 2013



The Examiner

AIMS—**AIMS A**—**AZELLA**—**NAEP**—**PARCC**
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Irene Hunting, Deputy Associate Superintendent

AIMS HS Testing 2014 – 2016

All students who are currently in high school and will be graduating by December 31, 2016 must meet the AIMS HS Graduation requirement. The AIMS HS Writing, HS Reading, and HS Mathematics tests will continue to be administered every fall and spring through Fall 2016.

ADE has developed a proposed AIMS HS Writing, Reading, and Mathematics testing calendar for the next three school years. Fall testing will remain in late October. Spring testing will be in late February for all three content areas to avoid conflicting with testing window for the new state assessment. There will be no make-up dates for either the Fall or Spring testing dates. The dates for AIMS HS Science testing have not yet been determined.

Here are the proposed test dates for AIMS HS Writing, Reading, and Mathematics through Fall 2016.

School Year 2014-2015		
	Fall 2014	Spring 2015
HS Writing	Tuesday, October 28, 2014	Monday, February 23, 2015
HS Reading	Wednesday, October 29, 2014	Tuesday, February 24, 2015
HS Mathematics	Thursday, October 30, 2014	Wednesday, February 25, 2015
School Year 2015-2016		
	Fall 2015	Spring 2016
HS Writing	Tuesday, October 27, 2015	Monday, February 22, 2016
HS Reading	Wednesday, October 28, 2015	Tuesday, February 23, 2016
HS Mathematics	Thursday, October 29, 2015	Wednesday, February 24, 2016
School Year 2016-2017		
	Fall 2016	Spring 2017
HS Writing	Tuesday, October 25, 2016	N/A
HS Reading	Wednesday, October 26, 2016	N/A
HS Mathematics	Thursday, October 27, 2016	N/A

ADE is accepting comments on these proposed dates through November 27, 2013. Please submit comments to Testing@azed.gov. The final AIMS HS Writing, Reading, and Mathematics testing dates will be published in the February edition of *The Examiner*.

Fall 2013 AIMS HS Score Reports

December 5, 2013 – reports and data files posted to *PearsonAccess*

December 12, 2013 – paper reports due to districts

February 7, 2014 – closing date for corrections and removal of reports and data files from *PearsonAccess*.

For instructions on downloading the reports and data file from *PearsonAccess*, see the *AIMS User's Guide Part 3 – Test Results* posted on *PearsonAccess*.

Scheduling Spring 2014 Testing

AIMS HS

All AIMS HS must be administered only on the scheduled dates.

AIMS HS Writing – Monday, February 24

AIMS HS Reading – Tuesday, February 25

AIMS HS Mathematics – Tuesday, April 8

AIMS HS Science – Wednesday, April 9

AIMS 3-8 – testing window April 7 - 25

All schools within the same district or charter should schedule testing on the exact same dates.

Days 1, 2, 3, and 4 are distinct and separate dates.

Days 1, 2, 3, and 4 must be scheduled in order but not necessarily on consecutive days.

Day 1 – Writing – Grades 5, 6, and 7

Day 1 – Science – Grades 4 and 8

Day 1 must be scheduled on or before April 14

Because the number of schools that are participating in the PARCC field testing, the first day of the window has been extended to start no later than Monday, April 14.

Day 2, 3, & 4 – Reading & Mathematics – Grades 3 - 8

Day 4 must be scheduled no later than April 24

Make-up testing – all content areas – all grades

Make-up tests for AIMS 3 - 8 may be scheduled as needed but must be completed by April 25.

AIMS District Test Coordinators have been asked to provide their AIMS 3 - 8 testing dates to Mary Pat Wood. Please complete this task by November 25.

Stanford 10 – testing window April 7 - 25

Stanford 10 – Grade 2

Grade 2 may be administered in two or three days within the test window

Stanford 10 – Grade 9

Grade 9 may be administered in one or two days within the test window

Ordering Spring 2014 AIMS Test Materials

PearsonAccess Email

November 26 – New *PearsonAccess* emails will be sent out for Spring 2014 AIMS testing

All previous *PearsonAccess* AIMS District Test Coordinators user names will be deleted. If you do not receive your logon information email by November 26, contact the Pearson AIMS Help Customer Service Line at 888.705.9421 (press 1) or at AIMSHelp@support.Pearson.com.

Participation Counts Window

December 2 – December 17 – Initial orders for Spring 2014 test materials must be placed in *PearsonAccess* by all AIMS District Test Coordinators.

Start as early as possible. You can go back into *PearsonAccess* any time prior to the closing date of December 17 and make changes.

- Verify Contact information & Shipping address.
- The address in *PearsonAccess* is what will be used for the shipping label for materials. **The contact and shipping address cannot be changed after December 17.**
- Select March delivery window (either March 17 - 20 or March 24 - 27)
- Enter participation counts.
Materials must be ordered for each school in the district/charter. Any additions or removal of a school from the list, contact Mary Pat Wood.
- The participation count is not complete until all schools within the district/charter are marked as "Complete".

The *AIMS User's Guide Part 1 – Participation Counts* will be posted on *PearsonAccess* no later than November 26. All AIMS District Test Coordinators are to download the *User's Guide* and follow the step-by-step instructions.

Participation Counts Window will close at 5 pm on December 17. Until all schools within the district/charter show as "Complete" your participation count is not finished.

Determining Participation Counts

Participation counts should reflect the exact number of materials needed at the time the order is placed. There is no need to round-up the counts since an overage will be included with the shipment of test materials. Preliminary participation counts based on SAIS enrollments will be shown in *PearsonAccess*. All AIMS District Test Coordinators must review the participation counts for each of their schools and revise, as needed, based on the guidance below. Do not wait until the last day of the window to start the participation counts in case there are computer issues.

Grade 2, participation counts is the same as enrollment minus any Stanford 10 Grade 2 test books in storage from last year. *If you have a sufficient number of Grade 2 test books from previous years you must still place an order for 1 test book.*

Grade 3 through 8, the participation count is the same as enrollment.

Grade 9, the participation count is the same as enrollment minus any Stanford 10 Grade 9 answer documents in storage from last year. Grade 9 test books should be in storage from last year. *If you have a sufficient number of Grade 9 answer documents from previous years you must still place an order for 1 answer document.*

HS Writing, HS Reading, and HS Mathematics, the participation counts are the number of students who must test on that content area **plus** the number of students who are retesting to "Exceed".

HS Science, the participation count is the number of Cohort 2016 students (typically sophomores) who must test on science **plus** the number of cohort 2017 students (typically freshmen) who are opting to take the test early.

Large Print and Braille Counts, participation counts are the same as the number of students with IEPs or 504 plans requiring these formats. Verify the need for large print and Braille materials before ordering. Check with all schools or SPED Director for current counts. It is important that large print and Braille materials for students currently enrolled are ordered during the initial Participation Counts Window. **Large Print and Braille materials may not be available for all grade levels during the Additional Order Window.**

Verifying Participation Counts

PearsonAccess will reopen during the window of January 27 – 31 for districts to verify the participation count and make any adjustments necessary for the April testing. Orders for February testing cannot be adjusted after the initial order.

Spring 2014 Pre-Test Workshops

The Spring 2014 AIMS Pre-Test Workshop will be presented online through IDEAL. Participation in the AIMS Pre-Test Workshop is mandatory for all AIMS District Test Coordinators. An email will be sent on January 8 with the details for the Pre-Test Workshop. ADE will pre-register all participants. Pearson will send, via UPS, an AIMS Pre-Test Workshop package that should arrive on January 9.

Online AIMS Pre-Test Workshop (January 13 – 24)

The online workshop is divided into 3 separate sessions. Each session must be completed by the due date below. Each session will take approximately 30-35 minutes to complete. Please start the workshop as early as possible.

- January 15 – Session 1
- January 21 – Session 2
- January 24 – Session 3

Student Pre-ID Labels**Extraction dates for Student Pre-ID Labels**

- January 7 – AIMS HS Writing/HS Reading
- February 13 – AIMS HS Mathematics/HS Science, AIMS 3-8, Stanford 10
- All uploads into SAIS after these dates will not be included in the Pre-ID Labels

Pre-ID Labels will be provided to schools as long as:

- Schools have SAIS enrollment data
- Schools entered participation counts in *PearsonAccess* by December 17.

All schools that have met the above criteria will have labels produced for:

- Stanford 10, Grades 2 and 9 – all students
- AIMS 3 - 8, Grades 3-8 – all students
- AIMS HS Writing, HW Reading, HS Mathematics - all students in cohort 2016 and all students in cohorts 2015, 2014, and below who have not passed that content area.
- AIMS HS Science - all students in cohort 2016 who did not test on AIMS HS Science last year and all students in Cohort 2017 who were selected using the AIMS Pre-ID Label Selection application.

AIMS HS Science Pre-ID Label selection application

The AIMS HS Pre-ID label selection application is used to select students for HS Science Pre-ID Labels. Cohort 2017 students (generally freshmen) will not automatically receive a label for AIMS HS Science. Use the label selections application to identify Cohort 2017 students who are opting to take the Spring 2014 AIMS HS Science test.

The application is found on the Assessment page of the ADE Common Logon. Follow the directions within the application. The label selection application will be available January 13 – February 13, 2014.

Move on When Reading

To help facilitate the implementation of the “Move on When Reading” law, the Spring 2014 AIMS Grade 3 Reading results will be available earlier than other AIMS 3 - 8 results. An AIMS Grade 3 Reading Roster will be posted online at *PearsonAccess* by end of day on May 22, 2014.

Transitioning from AIMS to the new state assessment

As we move forward from the AIMS to the new state assessment, the AIMS District Test Coordinator will be receiving information concerning all updates. All information that the AIMS District Test Coordinator receives should be shared with the Superintendent or Charter Representative to keep him/her apprised as to what is happening concerning the new state assessment and the PARCC Field Test.

Most districts and charters are participating the PARCC Field Test. More information about the PARCC Field Test is in the PARCC section of this newsletter.

The NCSC Assessment differences:

*Assess ELA (*reading and writing*) and mathematics in grades 3-8 and 11

*Includes selected responses (multiple choice) and **constructed responses**. Constructed responses will be in the writing portion of the NCSC alternate assessment

ADE recommended roll-out of NCSC instructional supports:

Instructional Resource Guide

Graduated Understandings (Instructional Families)

Element Cards

Teachers will use the NCSC instructional resources to assist in looking at the next steps in accessing the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards (ACCRS)

NCSC Pilot Test 1 will begin in February 2014

Transitioning from AIMS A to the new Alternate Assessment

The transition to the new alternate assessment is moving right along! At this time the National Center and State Collaborative (NCSC) is requesting participation in the Pilot Test. Recently, a letter has been emailed to district and charter holder representatives with a notification of the NCSC Pilot Test. An additional email was sent to special education directors and alternate assessment test coordinators with information about the Pilot and how to register schools. The NCSC Pilot Test 1 will take place beginning in February.

Professional Development and Instructional Supports for Teachers:

A CD with an electronic sample of mathematic instructional support has been handed out to most special education directors or alternate assessment test coordinators. These resources can assist teachers in accessing the College and Career Ready Standards for students with significant cognitive disabilities.

Instructional Resource Guide - provides explicitly scripted instructional strategies for teachers to use when working with students who do not have consistent response modes.

Graduated Understandings (Instructional Families-Core Content Connectors) – has several views of the Core Content Connectors which identifies the most salient grade-level, core academic content aligned to the College and Career Ready Standards.

Element Cards - can be used to support lesson planning providing scaffolds and supports for students.

MASSI (Mathematics Activities for Scripted Systematic Instruction) - provides explicitly scripted lesson plans including materials that can be cut out and used.

UDL Unit Lesson - has examples for elementary, middle and high school of how teachers can differentiate a math lesson in the general education setting focusing on communication and universal design for learning/access.

If you missed the Live Mega Mathematics Webinar in December, please access the recording on the AIMS A webpage: <http://www.azed.gov/special-education/aimsa/teachers/>, an overview of all the instructional supports mentioned above is included in the recording.

Don't forget to share this information with your teachers!

AIMS A continued

November
2013

AIMS A Timelines

November

Register and Complete Mandatory AIMS A Training (Test Coordinators). AIMS A Training window: November 4-22, 2013

December

Submit Usernames and Password Requests for all test administrators

January

January 5-31, 2014. Add eligible students into the AIMS A Application. Students must be entered in January 31, 2014 in order to ensure on-time delivery of performance tasks

February

February 15-March 31, 2014 - AIMS A testing window

Do you teachers need practice?

AIMS A Test Samples can be downloaded at <http://www.azed.gov/special-education/aimsa/teachers/t>

Mandatory AIMS A Test Coordinator Training through IDEAL

All AIMS A test coordinators should have already submitted your IDEAL username in order to be registered for the online training through IDEAL. AIMS A Test Coordinators will receive an email confirming you are registered for the training. AIMS A training window: November 4-22, 2013.

Please make sure to complete all AIMS A training modules and the survey in IDEAL. Failure to complete the mandatory training will result in your district or charter being locked out of the AIMS A application.

2014 AIMS A Administration

2014 AIMS A Administration will continue to assess **Reading, Mathematics, and Science.**

REMINDER: While the alternate academic standards will remain in place for the 2014 AIMS A administration for ELA and Math please do not forget that . . . the SCIENCE assessment remains as it is now and will continue beyond 2014-2015.

*Alternate Academic Standards **will remain** for only the science content area when AZ transitions to the new alternate assessment.* The AIMS A Science assessment will continue to be administered with multiple choice and performance tasks for grades 4, 8, and 10.

Sharing information . . .

A New Posting of *Transitioning to a new Alternate Assessment* for schools presentation can be located on the AIMS A webpage : <http://www.azed.gov/special-education/aimsa/special-education-directors/>. This presentation can be downloaded to use with your teachers and comes with speaker's notes.

An electronic version of both 2014 *AIMS A Test Coordinator Manual* and the 2014 *AIMS A Test Directions Manual* can be downloaded at this link: <http://www.azed.gov/special-education/aimsa/special-education-directors/>

SPRING 2014 AZELLA REASSESSMENT*February 10 – March 28, 2014*

The annual ELL student reassessment window is approaching. The Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment will be the second year that the new AZELLA is used. We expect that many of the challenges that districts encountered in 2013 will be minimized this second time around. Here are some tips in advance of the upcoming training.

Upcoming Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment Training Dates and Critical Information*November on-line training*

Training for the upcoming Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment will be available beginning November 19, 2013. AZELLA District Test Coordinators will receive an email from the AZELLA Inbox once the training is live on the IDEAL website. District Test Coordinators need to complete the Reassessment Training by December 10, 2013. The IDEAL training is available only to AZELLA District Test Coordinators who then have the responsibility for training the test administrators in their district.

AZELLA District Test Coordinators who have not yet completed this year's AZELLA Placement Test Training must do so prior to completing the Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment Training. Email reminders have been sent out to AZELLA District Test Coordinators who still need to complete the AZELLA Placement Test Training.

AZELLA District Test Coordinators will verify and submit participation counts for the Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment using *PearsonAccess* during the window of December 10 – 20. Spring 2014 Spring Reassessment test materials will be provided based on these participation counts. Materials will arrive during the week of January 27, 2014. If additional test materials are needed to test all students who require a Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment, they may be ordered beginning January 31, 2014. The Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment testing window is February 10 – March 28. During this window all ELL students, all ELL students withdrawn at parent request, and all Kindergarten IFEP students will take the Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment. FEP students will NOT take an AZELLA test. There is no local scoring of the Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment. During the week of March 31, 2014, all Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment test materials will be returned to Pearson for scoring and storage. Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment results will be available on *PearsonAccess* on May 8, 2014 with paper reports available by May 20, 2014.

Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment Pre-ID labels*Which ELL students will have a Pre-ID label provided?*

Pre-ID labels will be provided for all continuing ELL students, all ELL students withdrawn at parent request, and all IFEP Kindergarten students. Data for constructing each district's Pre-ID labels will be pulled from ADE's SAIS database on November 27, 2013. District Test Coordinators need to ensure that all student files reported in the AZELLA Corrections Application have been corrected and cleared prior to that date, that SAIS enrollment information is updated, and that all pending AZELLA placement tests in *PearsonAccess* have a SAIS ID and are completed (key entry and speaking test complete) by Friday, November 22, 2013.

Districts will be able to view the list of students who will receive a Pre-ID label in *PearsonAccess* beginning December 10, 2013.

Not all students who need to take the Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment will receive a Pre-ID label. New to Arizona PHLOTE students who take an AZELLA placement test after November 22 but before January 1 and are eligible for ELL services will not receive a Pre-ID label. Students who need to take the Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment and who changed schools after November 27 will not receive a Pre-ID label at their new school. For these students, their demographic data will have to be hand-bubbled on their Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment test materials.

Best Practices from PELL Meeting*Educator tips for AZELLA test administration*

AZELLA Test Administration was the Assessment Division's spotlight of the 33rd PELL (Practitioner of English Language Learners) meeting held on September 13, 2013. AZELLA District Test Coordinators rallied together to produce a listing of common/useful practices that can be used in the administration of the upcoming Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment.

Prior to administering the AZELLA, test administrators should:

- Be Positive.
- Familiarize themselves with the materials and procedures well in advance of the testing periods.
- Schedule Testing Periods.
 - ☐ Start early.
 - ☐ Schedule breaks, recess, snacks, and lunch.
- Select a Testing Environment.
 - ☐ Centralized testing location for secondary students – All students in one location with proctors for every 20 students (similar to ACT).
 - ☐ Group students by ability level.
 - ☐ For primary students test in small cohorts with monitoring support.
- The Speaking Test
 - ☐ Select at least one phone dedicated to the AZELLA Speaking Test.
 - ☐ Have a “runner” to gather students.
 - ☐ Show the demonstration video prior to the test or between the significant break scheduled between Reading and Writing.
 - ☐ Perform a “mock” speaking test with speaker phone prior to test administration.
 - ☐ For Stages I and II, give students a plush toy to hold on to during the test to limit hand gestures. You may also use the monitor function on the phone to allow students to hold the handset.

Practitioners suggest that AZELLA District Test Coordinators should create a reliable infrastructure, such as:

- Organize district student data files and maintain spreadsheet of all PHLOTES by school/grade.
- Code all students in district student information system.
- Have registrar forward new student information to the ELA department for SDELL 70 report research to ensure proper language classification.
- Record AZELLA training for unlimited access.
- Create campus testing schedule and testing teams.
 - ☐ Utilize a cohort of retired teachers to assist with testing.
 - ☐ Train paraprofessionals and/or hire substitutes to assist with testing and class coverage.

AZELLA Stage I Sample Test*Preparing Kindergartners for the Spring Reassessment*

The AZELLA Team, with the help of AZ educators, has created an AZELLA Stage I Sample Test. The Sample Test will be posted to the ADE/Assessment home page under the “Resources” tab later this month. The test will be available for downloading and printing. The AZELLA Stage I Sample Test was created as a resource for preparing Kindergarten Students for the Spring 2014 AZELLA Stage I Reassessment. The test includes items that represent various item types that are included on the Stage I test.

Recognizing that our youngest ELL students need the opportunity to practice test taking skills, the AZELLA team prioritized creating the Stage I Sample Test. Sample tests for Stages II –V will also be developed in the future.

Mid-Year AZELLA Testing (ELL to Mainstream)

ELL Students who qualify for mid-year testing for the purpose of potential transfer to mainstream classrooms must have a Teacher Referral Form on file and must test during scoring cycle 07 (November 25 – December 20) and have key entry submitted by December 20, 2013.

Students who score “Proficient” for their Overall Proficiency Level are to be moved to mainstream classes and are NOT to take the Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment. Students who do not score Proficient, remain in ELL classes and must take the Spring 2014 AZELLA Reassessment.

AZELLA Inbox*Writing effective emails*

The AZELLA team works together to respond within one business day to all emails sent to the AZELLA Inbox (AZELLA@azed.gov). Some emails may require further research before a response can be provided. To expedite a timely response,

- Use a subject line that is specific and includes the name of your district,
- If your question is in regard to a specific student, include the student’s SAIS number, and
- Include full contact information in your signature line or elsewhere in the email.

Emails should be sent from the AZELLA District Coordinator. Those in the district who have questions should direct their questions to the Coordinator for submission to ADE. The AZELLA District Test Coordinator is encouraged to “cc:” others in the email as appropriate. The AZELLA Team will “Reply All” when others are cc’ed.

Speaking Test*Testing students with little or no English language ability*

New PHLOTE students who arrive at school with very little or no English language ability may not be able to respond to the questions on the AZELLA Speaking test. These students will still need to complete the Speaking test in order to get a complete score. Be certain to show these students the Speaking Demonstration Video and to complete the Practice Session prior to administering the Speaking Test on the phone.

Even with this preparation, some students will not be able to get past the sound check items at the beginning of the speaking test and the test will automatically disconnect. After three unsuccessful attempts to complete the sound check items, the adults administering the speaking test may answer the sound check items only to allow the speaking test to begin. However, once Speaking test item #1 begins, the adult may not speak again and must allow the student the opportunity to sit through and hear the entire Speaking Test. Even if the student does not respond to any Speaking items, it will count as a valid Speaking test.

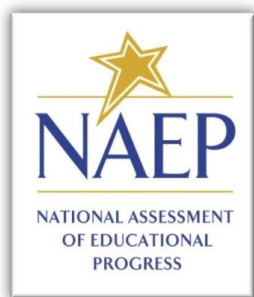
What do I do with AZELLA Placement Test Books, Answer Documents, and Response Sheets?

Completed Kindergarten Student Response Sheets, completed Stage II Placement Test Books, and completed Stage III-V Answer Documents are to be kept in secure storage for one year. After one year, these documents can be securely shredded. These “scorable” documents are not part of the student’s permanent record.

For both the Placement Test and Reassessments, one copy of the AZELLA Individual Student Report must remain in the student file as a permanent record.

AZELLA Blueprint

The AZELLA test blueprint is available on the ADE/Assessment home page under the “General Information” tab.



NAEP

National Assessment of Educational Progress

NAEP 2014 Participating Schools

Next Steps for NAEP 2014 schools

Thank you for completing MyNAEP tasks and uploading your student lists.

You should receive your list of sampled students in early December. The NAEP Representative will contact you and schedule an online Pre-Assessment Visit. The NAEP Representative will explain how to complete the Prepare for Assessment tasks due by January 24, 2014. In addition, online tutorials are available to walk you through each step of the process.

- Update the list of sampled students
- Include students with disabilities and English language learners
- Notify parents/guardians of sampled students
- Submit a current roster of students
- Manage school and/or teacher questionnaires
- Encourage and motivate students to do their best
- Finalize assessment arrangements

Please know that the Arizona NAEP office is here to support you to ensure a successful administration of NAEP at your site. If you need any assistance please contact the NAEP Inbox, NAEP@azed.gov or call 602.542.5031.

NAEP TIMSS Linking Study Report

Arizona schools participated in the 2011 NAEP TIMSS Linking Study at the national level, however each state also received a predicted score confirmed by three different methodologies. Please see the NCES link for the in-depth report: http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/studies/naep_timss/

Scores for Arizona eighth-graders were not significantly different from the international average in both mathematics and science. In addition to reporting average scores, TIMSS reports on the performance of students at four international benchmarks for each subject and grade: Advanced (625), High (550), Intermediate (475), and Low (400). Arizona's average scores – 502 in mathematics and 507 in science – was in the Intermediate benchmark level on the 2011 TIMSS in both Mathematics and Science.

While these scores were slightly higher than the TIMSS average of 500 for each subject, Arizona still lags behind when compared to many states across the U.S. and countries around the world. "Arizona scores at the average scale score on TIMSS for both math and science. This demonstrates the need for more rigorous Arizona College and Career Ready Standards along with a rigorous state assessment that measures problem solving, critical thinking, and reasoning skills that our students need to compete not only nationally but internationally," said Superintendent John Huppenthal.

Countries and states scoring at the TIMSS mathematics average scale score and not statistically different from Arizona's predicted score of 502 include Great Britain (507), Alberta Canada (505), Kentucky (predicted score 505), Hungary (505), Australia (505), Hawaii (predicted score 504), South Carolina (predicted score 504). In Science countries and states scoring at the TIMSS average scale score and not statistically different from Arizona's predicted 507 scale score include Italy (501), Ukraine (501), and California (predicted score 499).

Follow NAEP on social media:



From Shelly Pollnow, Ed.D., Director of the NAEP Program for Arizona



Spring 2014 PARCC Field Test

The first round of districts and schools participating in the Spring 2014 Field Test were notified in August. We were able to secure 75% of the schools and districts needed for Arizona's participation. Additional schools to complete the sample were then identified. Notification of participation is now in progress.

Meanwhile, PARCC working groups and Pearson have been preparing training opportunities for those involved in the Field Test. The Regional Trainings for Technology Coordinators and LEA/District Test Coordinators will be taking place in Arizona later this year. Webinars, training documents, and administration guides will be available in early 2014. The topics for these include:

- Technology Set Up (beginner & advanced)
- Computer-Based Testing: Test Administration Training (beginner & advanced)
- Paper-Based Testing: Test Administration Training
- Emerging Technologies and Security
- Accessibility Features and Accommodations

Sample test items have been released on <http://parcconline.org/>. In the next month the new sample items will be re-released as technology-based items that students, educators, and parents can use to better understand the content and technologies PARCC will be using.

Speaking and Listening Assessments

PARCC is building Speaking and Listening Assessments for grades K-12 to help educators assess students' speaking and listening communications skills. The PARCC Speaking and Listening Assessments will provide:

- Information to schools and school districts that can be used to evaluate and improve the efficacy of instructional programs, materials and professional learning with respect to the Speaking and Listening CCSS;
- Information to parents and students that indicates student learning and progress in building their speaking and listening abilities;
- Teacher scoring of assessments to inform and improve instruction.

Starting in the 2015-16 school year, the assessment will be available to educators on demand with little set up and preparation required. Students in grades K-12 will have an opportunity to demonstrate their speaking and listening skills each year, but the method of that demonstration will vary by grade level:

Real Time Engagement: Students will listen to a pre-recorded speech and/or media production and provide spontaneous oral responses to related questions and/or discussion topics (listening and speaking). These performance based tasks will be administered in grades 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11.

Advance Preparation: Students will conduct research using authentic topics, share their findings in a formal presentation (speaking), and respond spontaneously to audience questions (listening and speaking). These performance based tasks will be administered in grades 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12.

In both cases, teachers will score student-produced content based on what they present and/or what they hear. Both performance tasks will be developed to be instructionally sensitive to English language learners and students with disabilities, including students who may be deaf or hard of hearing.

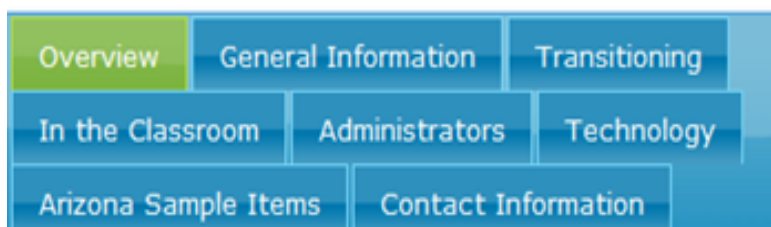
PARCC continued



Partnership for Assessment of
Readiness for College and Careers

ADE PARCC Website

The [ADE PARCC website](#) has a variety of resources for classroom teachers. We have created tabs to make it easier for you to locate information related to the PARCC assessment.



Our **Arizona Sample Items** tab includes PARCC-like assessment items developed by Arizona teachers for use in the classroom. Bookmark this page and return frequently as we continue to build a bank of test items for Math and ELA/Literacy across the grade levels.

The **In the Classroom** tab has information that teachers and coaches will find helpful for developing lessons, working with students, and communicating with parents. The latest resource that was added, “The Ten Clicks” series, offers a quick overview of PARCC for [teachers](#), [parents and students](#), and [administrators](#). Each page has ten quick web links to help learn about the PARCC assessment, Spring Field Test, and technology guidelines.

The **Administrators** tab also includes links for “The Ten Clicks” plus an overview of PARCC specifically for administrators.

There is a **Technology** tab that will be helpful in planning for the Spring Field Test and for implementation of the College and Career Ready Standards.

The **Transitioning** tab contains documents for teachers, students, and parents to assist with the transition from AIMS to PARCC.

Arizona PARCC-like Sample Items Webinar

Join us on Wednesday, November 6th at 3:30 p.m. for a thirty minute webinar introducing the newly released Arizona PARCC-like items. This webinar will focus on ELA/Literacy; specifically 4th grade informational text. Additional webinars will be available as more resources, both ELA/Literacy and Mathematics, are developed. To sign up for this webinar, click on this link: <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/273554022>.

Staying Informed

If you have not already signed up to receive the latest information about Arizona PARCC, please do so today. You will receive monthly newsletters and timely updates about the assessment and field test. Encourage your district and site administrators and teachers to also [subscribe to AZ PARCC](#) today!

OELAS Update

The 2013 OELAS conference, *Focusing Instruction through the Language Lens*, will take place from December 11-13, 2013 at the JW Marriott Tucson Starr Pass in Tucson. To register or find out more about this event, please go to <http://www.azed.gov/oelasconf/>

The 2013 OELAS conference focuses on a shared and collaborative goal of success, tempered by the special language needs of ELL students, honed by professional development and experience, and achieved by masterful instruction.

A myriad of impressively-credentialed national speakers will enrich the conference this year. First time presenters for OELAS 2013 include Tim Shanahan, Susan Hall, Susan Ebbers, Kylene Beers, Carol Rothenberg and Judi Dodson.

Assessment 2013 - 2014 Critical Dates Calendar



To help District Test Coordinators track upcoming dates for each of the different Assessment programs, an Assessment Calendar is posted on every Assessment page on the ADE website. This calendar includes critical dates for AIMS, AIMS A, AZELLA, NAEP, and PARCC. This calendar will be updated monthly throughout the year. The calendar can be viewed by month with all Assessment programs or by the specific Assessment program at <http://www.azed.gov/standards-development-assessment/>. The individual Assessment program calendars will have more detailed information.

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